Technical Amendments to time-specific entry prohibitions – various locations (Require City Council approval)

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<th>Date:</th>
<th>February 28, 2011</th>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>Toronto and East York Community Council</td>
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<td>From:</td>
<td>Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District</td>
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<td>Wards:</td>
<td>Parkdale High Park, Ward 14; Trinity-Spadina, Ward 20; St. Paul's, Ward 21; and St. Paul's, Ward 22.</td>
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<td>Reference Number:</td>
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**SUMMARY**

Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council to rescind all time-specific "No Entry" regulations at all locations where currently authorized in the Toronto and East York Community Council Area and replace each with the appropriate directional turn prohibition or compulsory turn regulation as outlined in the Appendices "A" and "B", attached to this report.

These regulatory amendments are necessary to bring the traffic by-law and signage posted at each location into compliance with the requirements of the Ontario Highway Traffic Act. The amended regulations will maintain the same traffic operational restrictions as currently exist.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council rescind the time-specific "No Entry" regulations outlined in Appendix "A" attached to the report dated February 28, 2011 and entitled, "Amendments to time-specific entry prohibitions – Various locations (Require City Council approval)", from the Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District.

2. City Council approve implementation of the time-specific turn prohibitions and compulsory turn regulations outlined in Appendix "B" attached to the report dated
February 28, 2011 and entitled, "Amendments to time-specific entry prohibitions – Various locations (Require City Council approval)", from the Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District.

**Financial Impact**

The funds to install signs to give effect to the regulatory amendments in the estimated amount of $18,500.00 are available in the Transportation Services 2011 Operating Budget.

**ISSUE BACKGROUND**

In March 2000, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation released the "Ontario Traffic Manual, Book 5 - Regulatory Signs". This book and other OTM books that followed replaced the former Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) that had been in place since 1986. Among other changes, OTM Book 5 stipulated that "Do Not Enter" signs should no longer be used as a means to identify time-specific restrictions that applied on a street.

**COMMENTS**

During the period from 1975 to 1990, numerous regulations were implemented in the former City of Toronto area that prohibited vehicular entry to over 50 local streets, mostly during rush hour periods, to discourage traffic infiltration of many local neighbourhoods in the central area of the City. To minimize the number of signs required to convey the regulation to motorists, "Do Not Enter" signs indicating the specific time period(s) when the regulation applied, were posted.

The Provincial MUTCD did not place any restriction on the use of "Do Not Enter" signs. However, the OTM guidelines for the use of a "Do Not Enter" sign indicate that this sign shall only be used for absolute conditions with no time restrictions. In situations where the entry prohibition has a time restriction associated with it, the condition is no longer absolute. In these situations, the appropriate turn prohibition or compulsory movement provision should be implemented and the appropriate authorized sign should be posted. Transportation Services has followed these requirements at all locations where time-specific entry restrictions to a roadway have been implemented since 2000.

There are currently 24 locations within the Toronto and East York Community Council area where time-specific "No Entry" regulations are still authorized and the "Do Not Enter" signs indicating the restricted time periods are still posted to indicate the regulation. Each location involves an intersection which has TTC service and where authority is required from City Council to make a final decision on amending these regulations.

In this regard, Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council to rescind the current time-specific "No Entry" regulations outlined in Appendix "A" attached to this report. In place thereof, the specific turn prohibitions or compulsory turn regulations outlined in Appendix "B" should be enacted to maintain the traffic operational restrictions that were provided by the former "No Entry" regulations.
Approval of these regulatory amendments and installation of appropriate signs will bring the traffic by-law(s) into compliance with the Ontario Highway Traffic Act requirements.

Approval of similar amendments at the remaining locations within the former City of Toronto area where time-specific "No Entry" regulations currently apply requires approval by either Toronto and East York Community Council or as a result of Ward redistribution, either by North York Community Council or Etobicoke York Community Council. These amendments are the subject of separate reports.

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SIGNATURE

Andrew Koropeski, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation Services
Toronto and East York District

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

1. Appendix "A" – No Entry Regulations to be Rescinded
2. Appendix "B" – Prohibited/Compulsory Turn Regulations to be Enacted